

Mr. Speaker, few people either in or out of Government service are aware of the extreme importance of this position and the rigorous responsibilities placed upon the Director of Central Intelligence. I believe it was President Kennedy who welcomed John McCone to this position by saying "welcome to the bull's-eye"—indeed this position is on the bull's-eye. For no matter how well the job is done, no credit is received and if things go wrong, the CIA is an easy target for the comment "it was a failure of intelligence."

I appreciate the contribution which men like Allen W. Dulles, John A. McCone, and "Red" Raborn have made in this job and so do other members of the House and Senate Armed Services and Appropriations Subcommittees who deal with CIA activities. I just want to say here in this chamber that Admiral Raborn, who this year received the Forrestal Award from the National Security Industrial Association, well deserves the gratitude of every American.

I want to wish him well as he returns to private life and want to extend to Mr. Richard Helms, his very able successor, every good wish for the future as he assumes these duties.

(Mr. MAHON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MAHON. Mr. Speaker, I will not take the full minute, but I do rise to concur fully and completely in the very excellent statement which the gentleman from Illinois has made in regard to Admiral Raborn and others who have served the Nation in this important capacity in previous years. I wish to specifically approve all the complimentary references which the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ARENDS) has made to Admiral Raborn, my able, dedicated and respected friend of long standing.

Mr. RIVERS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MAHON. I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. RIVERS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, may I associate myself with the splendid remarks of the gentleman from Illinois. I believe every Member of Congress ought to know the record of Admiral Raborn. Nobody could have or has done a job equal to or surpassing the job Admiral Raborn has performed in the Central Intelligence. He left there on his own will. The Nation owes him a debt it can never repay.

Mr. GERALD R. FORD. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman from Texas yield?

Mr. MAHON. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. GERALD R. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I likewise want to associate myself with the views expressed here today by the gentleman from Illinois, the gentleman from Texas and the gentleman from South Carolina.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to know and work with Admiral Raborn for a number of years on critical problems affecting our national security. Our Polaris submarine capability with its ballistic missile weapon system can be largely attributed to the extraordinary management genius of Admiral Raborn.

over the years at a time when this Nation faced a serious crisis.

I believe from my personal observations and knowledge that Admiral Raborn did a vital job in a very difficult circumstance by heading up the Central Intelligence Agency. All of us, I am sure, will wish him well in the years ahead.

Mr. BOW. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MAHON. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. BOW. Mr. Speaker, I should like to join the gentleman from Illinois, the gentleman from Texas, and my other colleagues in paying my respects and regards to Admiral Raborn, who has done magnificent service for his country for many, many years, beginning as a young naval officer and then later in the development of the atomic submarine and the other work he has done.

In recent years I have had occasion to meet with him on other matters. He is a great American, a man whom we will miss. I am sorry he will no longer be available, but I am sure he will be available to us in special circumstances.

I join the other gentlemen in paying respects to him.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MAHON. I yield to the majority leader.

Mr. ALBERT. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot let this opportunity pass without joining the distinguished group of gentlemen who are paying tribute to "Red" Raborn.

Admiral Raborn went to the Military Academy from Marlow, Okla. That by itself is a great endorsement.

He has distinguished himself as one of the really great leaders of our Military Establishment of modern times. His work on the Polaris missile was monumental. His personal sacrifice in returning to duty to head up the CIA at a critical time is illustrative of his devotion to country. His service has been far beyond the call of duty. I join my colleagues in saluting this great American.

(Mr. ALBERT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO ADM. WILLIAM F. RABORN

(Mr. ARENDS asked and was given permission to proceed for 1 minute.)

Mr. ARENDS. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend President Johnson announced that he had accepted, with regret, the resignation of Adm. William F. Raborn as Director of Central Intelligence. He also announced his nomination of Mr. Richard Helms, presently serving as Deputy Director, to succeed Admiral Raborn.

As Director of Central Intelligence, Admiral Raborn has continued the high caliber of dedicated public service for which he was known as a career officer in the U.S. Navy. While he served with distinction in many capacities, he is best known for the work he did on the development of the Polaris missile system as Director of Special Projects. He subsequently became Deputy Chief of Naval Operations—Development—and was retired from the Navy on September 1, 1963.

When another distinguished American, John A. McCone, retired as Director of Central Intelligence, the President appealed to Admiral Raborn to return from his retirement from public office to fill this position which is so vital to our national security. Despite the fact that he had become settled in private life, Admiral Raborn responded to this call.

As a member of the House Armed Services CIA Subcommittee, having legislative oversight over the CIA, it was my privilege to resume a close relationship with Admiral Raborn. In the highest traditions of service, and in keeping with the practice of his predecessors in this position, Admiral Raborn maintained a close and continuing contact with this subcommittee, keeping it completely informed on all matters in which the Agency was involved.